

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY: PHASE I/II HISTORIC RESOURCES AND PHASE I ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEYS

CHOPTANK ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT BETHEL CHURCH ROAD TO BUNKER HILL ROAD NEW CASTLE COUNTY, DELAWARE

**BY BARBARA CHI HSIAO SILBER AND AMY SEAVEY
McCORMICK, TAYLOR AND ASSOCIATES, INC.**

ABSTRACT

In Fall 2001, McCormick, Taylor and Associates, Inc. conducted a Cultural Resources Survey of the proposed Choptank Road Improvements project in St. George's Hundred, New Castle County. This survey entailed a Phase I/II historic resources survey and a Phase I archaeological survey.

The purpose of the Phase I/II historic resources survey was to identify all buildings and structures, fifty years in age or older, situated within the Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the project. Previous studies conducted within the APE resulted in the identification of five (5) properties listed or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and three (3) identified properties. Of these five eligible or listed properties, one (1), the Governor B.T. Biggs Farm (N-5123), is individually listed in the NRHP; whereas the remaining four (4) properties are contained within the thematic National Register nomination, Rebuilding St. Georges Hundred (N-9567). Separately, these four (4) properties are known as: Woodside (N-427), Choptank (N-109), S. Holton Farm (N-107), and Rosedale (N-5148). Of the three (3) previously identified properties, one (1), the Biggs Farm (N-6190), was determined ineligible for listing in the NRHP. The other two (2) properties, the H. Clayton House (N-12743) and the W.T. Stoops House (N-108) have not been evaluated for their eligibility. Recent fieldwork resulted in the identification of three (3) additional resources meeting the fifty year old or older requirement for historic evaluation within the APE. The National Register Criteria for Evaluation were then applied to these three (3) resources.

Bridge 377 over Back Creek (N-12659) was identified and surveyed during a previous study in 2000 and determined ineligible for listing in the NRHP. During the course of this most recent study, Bridge 377 was under construction and being replaced.

Three (3) properties are situated in the vicinity of the proposed project; however, they are not considered to be within the project's APE. They are: Choptank-on-the-Hill (N-5243), a National Register listed property contained within the Rebuilding St. Georges Hundred nomination; Locust Grove (N-3860) and the J.T. Bird House (N-6195), both of which have not been evaluated for their eligibility.

This report includes Delaware Cultural Resource Survey forms for two (2) previously and three (3) recently surveyed properties.

The purpose of the Phase I archaeological survey was to locate and identify any archaeological resources within the project APE. Seventeen sites containing potentially intact archaeological deposits were identified by this survey. Based on the current design scheme and current project APE, it is anticipated that at least seven of these identified sites may require additional work within the current project APE.